



Established
By Edward
Sawyer
1973

Crimpuille Comments

Chairman: Ernest Taft

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ONE OF BELLINGHAM'S TREASURES

This home on Pearl Street was constructed in 1877. The building to the right (no longer there) was used as a Post Office. The owner of the home was E.B. Snowe—he also ran the post office and was station agent, until 1929.

Current residents, Suzanne and Edward Domestico have given us some interesting facts about the house. During recent renovations, they discovered E.B. Snowe printed on each old board (probably by deliverer)...A room on the west side has stained-glass windows, which on a sunny day suffuse the room with a myriad of colors....A large tin box found under the attic floor was possibly used as cold-food storage...In a wall behind a dry sink was a tin box containing 1880 Valentines.

Do YOU live in an OLD Treasure? We'd love to hear from you.

EA

HISTORY was made on March 15, 2003 when the B.H.S. Boys Basketball Team won the Division 3, State Championship. Great job, guys...CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

"The Adventures of Bellingham's Isaac F. Shepard"

James J. Buckley

Shortly after General Isaac F. Shepard bought a farm in Bellingham in 1887, he became the focus of rumors and stories. Some of his neighbors spread the word that Shepard had been an apprentice printer when he was a teenager. Others claimed he was a graduate of Harvard College who had taught school in Boston. A few hesitatingly suggested that he was a well-known poet whose writings had been praised by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

Each fresh rumor was greeted with ridicule by some skeptical Bellingham townspeople who doubted that this well-known Civil War General had even engaged in something as frivolous as writing poetry or had ever been a straight-laced schoolmaster. Yet, all these rumors were true. Indeed they included only a small sample of the many and varied careers Shepard pursued before he retired to Bellingham to become a Gentleman farmer.

Soon after his arrival, he began to receive invitations from his neighbors and town dignitaries to visit them and be their guest at dinner. It was during such occasions that Shepard reluctantly revealed some facts about his varied and colorful adventures.

One of his most interesting stories involved a suspiciously acting officer who seemed to dog Shepard's footsteps during an especially difficult stage in his military career. When the slaves were officially freed by President Lincoln in January 1863, thousands of these newly-freed men joined the army. Because his distinguished career included such battles as Vicksburg, Chickasaw Bayou and the capture of Arkansas Post, General Ulysses S. Grant chose Shepard to give these freedmen the training necessary to lead them in the prosecution of the war, and to be victorious in battle.

Shepard soon discovered that it was not going to be easy to accomplish these goals. These ex-slaves had been barred from learning anything about weapons and there fore were least likely to have any prior experience in firing rifles. But Shepard quickly realized that their lack of experience with weapons was completely offset by the fact that they responded well to discipline. In addition, they were far more enthusiastic about participating in the war than many of those drafted into the Army.

In 1863 there were Northerners who wore the Union uniform and yet were secretly sympathetic toward the South's cause, especially Dixie's position that slavery was lawful. Although they favored the Confederacy, they were reluctant to break with their families and friends and so they joined the Union Army. These secret Southern sympathizers and those Northerners who were openly hostile to anyone not white, attacked Isaac Shepard for having the audacity to lead ex-slaves into battle. Shepard was charged with being a fake who pretended to train these men for battle but who knew quite well that they could never be trained to become fighting men. By his actions, Shepard was making a mockery of those who always claimed

that slaves were incapable of thinking for themselves. As he began to win battle after battle along the Mississippi River, his reports of victory were greeted with skepticism by these bigots.

Shepard ignored all his critics. He remained at his post and did his job. Indeed he was so conscientious that he never took a leave all those years. But this exceptional devotion to duty did not protect him from a constant barrage of criticism. Soon these vicious rumors reached Washington, D.C.

Because Abraham Lincoln was himself the object of ridicule and criticism, he felt sorry for Shepard, yet the President also knew that he had to investigate the allegations that Shepard was incapable of shaping the ex-slaves into a fighting force and that Shepard's claims of victories were false. Despite his reluctance to leave his troops, Shepard obediently complied with the President's request that they meet at the White House. After a lengthy conversation, Lincoln declared that he was fully satisfied and he labeled all rumors about Shepard as being mean and contemptuous. When the President learned that Shepard had taken no leave since the outbreak of the war, Lincoln persuaded him to travel to Boston to visit his family before returning to his command along the Mississippi.

When Shepard returned to his Army, he still held the rank of Colonel. During his trip back to his troops, he stopped to discuss the war's progress with Generals Steele, Thomas and Sherman. They expressed complete satisfaction with Shepard's ability to shape the ex-slaves into a formidable fighting force. Individually and collectively, they recommended to General Grant that Shepard be made a Brigadier General. Yet despite this unusual combination of recommendations from not one but three generals, Grant did nothing. Shepard did not become disheartened, rather he resumed his command, confident that before too long he would receive the promotion that the three generals felt he deserved.

Shortly after Shepard resumed his post, he began receiving reports from his officers that a man dressed in the Union uniform had been seen talking to the ex-slaves. Each time an officer spotted the man and called out to him, he would quickly leave the scene, somehow eluding his pursuers. At first, Shepard didn't pay much attention to these reports because he had more weighty matters to ponder. But when sightings of this mystery man became more frequent, Shepard ordered that the stranger be apprehended and brought to the General's headquarters. Apparently the man somehow learned to Shepard's order, for he disappeared from the camp and was never seen again.

Shortly thereafter, Shepard was summoned to the encampment of General Grant. During their discussion, Grant praised Shepard for his work and informed him that he was being promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General. When Shepard thanked Grant for having so much trust in him, Grant smiled. He then admitted that he was unable to accept Shepard's word for his actions because of all the inflammatory rumors about Shepard. Grant explained that in order to satisfy himself that Shepard was indeed telling the truth, Grant assumed a disguise and went to Shepard's encampment to interview the troops personally.

A lesser man would have been greatly offended by Grant's spy mission. But Shepard realized that Grant had interrupted his important duties in order to save that career of Shepard. So this man who later became a lionized citizen of Bellingham, thanked Grant and hastily returned to his command to share the good news with his officers and to reveal the identity of the elusive and mysterious stranger.

(To Be Continued)



We believe this home on High ST. was the home of General Shepard. It certainly was in better condition in those times.

(the house no longer exists)

B.H.C.

Reasons Why the English Language is Hard to Learn

1. The bandage was wound around the wound.
2. The farm was used to produce produce.
3. The dump was so full that it had to refuse more refuse.
4. He could lead if he would get the lead out.
5. The soldier decided to desert his dessert in the desert.
6. When shot at, the dove dove into the bushes.
7. I did not object to the object.
8. The insurance was invalid for the invalid.

Lets face it, the English language is crazy! There is no egg in eggplant nor ham in hamburger, and no pine or apple in a pineapple. English muffins weren't invented in England or French fries in France. Quicksand works slowly and boxing rings are square!!!

YOU FIGURE IT OUT!!!!



The class of 1941 of Bellingham High School held its 20th class reunion at Chicken Pete's in Milford. Front row, Left to right, are, William Ridge, Eugene Godin, Paul Sahagian, Edward Mousseau and Kenneth Reid. Second row, Jeannette (Rainey) Lariviere, Viola (Brunetti) Sternfels, Joseph Spas, treasurer; Inessa (Gigante) Lavigne, Vice president; Carroll White, President; Mary (DiPietro) Caccavelli, Secretary, and Margaret (Dore) Higgins. Last row Raymond Guerin, Louis Bonoyer, Elmer Ambler, Frank Kozimor, Helen (Collamati) Getty, Mary (Thomas) Williams, Yvette (Ledoux) Gagne, Audrey (Brown) Reid, George Whiting, Ruth (Dore) Sweezy and Frances (Cowan) Ferigno.

Since we have a town election coming up soon, we thought you'd be interested in seeing the slate of another, in our past...All the candidates were from the Citizen's Party and all were elected to office.

Town Election, March 7, 1938

Platform of the Citizens Party

To retain the fullest cooperation from the Federal government in relieving the acute unemployment problem in town; the present WPA quota in Bellingham is the largest quota ever obtained by the town, in spite of decreased Federal relief expenditures.

To continue the street improvement program inaugurated last year, when residences on certain streets that were in a deplorable condition were rendered permanently accessible.

To insure a speedy and successful termination of our high school project.

To renew, multiply, and strengthen our efforts of the past year to obtain water for the people of Bellingham.

To promote efficiency and economy in the administration of the several departments of the town without the impairment of service.

To bear in mind at all times that our paramount aim is to make Bellingham a better town in which to live.

THE CITIZENS' PARTY HAS THE RIGHT CANDIDATES FOR THE RIGHT PLATFORM!

VOTE THE STRAIGHT CITIZENS' PARTY TICKET!

EDWARD LEMIRE,
Center Street, Bellingham

— 1 —

AGAIN your staunch support and sincere cooperation are essential IF the Citizens' Party is to go forward in its constructive program of making Bellingham a better town in which to live.

We therefore submit for your careful consideration the following candidates, whose training and experience qualify them to carry out that constructive program.



SELECTMEN

PAUL ROBIDOUX

World War veteran; as chairman of the Board of Selectmen during the past year, he has served the town earnestly and capably; the town needs, and he deserves, his re-election.

JOHN J. CLANCY

His practical experience and knowledge of municipal affairs gained as a member of the Board of Public Welfare during the past year, plus his sound judgment and business acumen, will make John J. Clancy a great asset to the most important board in town.



WALTER W. LeBLANC

World War veteran; a former member of the School Committee; his active and energetic membership on the Finance Committee is conclusive evidence of his ability to cope with financial problems, and is a guarantee that municipal affairs will be conducted on a business-like basis.

A LETTER OF THANKS

to the

VOTERS of BELLINGHAM

Your confidence in the Citizens' Party, manifested by your loyal support of its candidates at the last town election, was the decisive factor in placing them in office.

For your unqualified support then, and for your unselfish cooperation since, we, the members of the Citizens' Party, express our deepest gratitude.

BUT!.....

TOWN CLERK

LEO A. GOSSELIN, Attorney-at-Law; Town Clerk for past four years; has conducted department economically and efficiently.

TOWN TREASURER

LEO A. MURRAY, present town treasurer, whose disposal of entire issue of high school notes at private sale saved the town \$1,000; who borrowed money in anticipation of revenue at six-tenths of 1 per cent, the lowest interest rate ever obtained by the town; who collected in full the note due the town on the sale of the town farm.

COLLECTOR OF TAXES

JOSEPH O. FLEUETTE, Tax Collector for past four years; his reelection will be an assurance that the financial credit of the town will remain sound.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE (3-year term)

LIONEL R. TRUDEAU, present chairman of the school committee, who has demonstrated his capacity for independent thinking, with the will of the people uppermost in his mind; graduate of Providence College.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE (2-year term)

LESTER W. LATAILLE, former town official; successful business man; possesses administrative ability for the solution of school problems.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WELFARE

WALTER P. LEWINSKY, actively associated with the labor movement as president of local textile union; understands problems of underprivileged.

CONSTABLES

EUCLIDE A. FLEUETTE, present Chief of Police.
JOHN A. FOLEY, present Deputy Chief of Police.
JOHN HOOTHAY, young, capable and alert.
FABIAN CHAMBERLAND, Constable for past nine years.

PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUSTEES

KATHRYN E. GARIEPY } Both will be of material assistance in
SARA A. PERRY } formulating the policies of this board.

The following candidates are without opposition and have the endorsement of the Citizens' Party:

CLARENCE W. HOYT for Tax Assessor.
LIONEL R. TRUDEAU for Moderator.
LEWIS E. WHITNEY for Tree Warden.
WILLIAM F. WALES for Cemetery Committee.

WORDS YOUR TEENAGER DOESN'T WANT TO HEAR

No, you can't take the car.
Go ask your father.
Turn down the stereo.
How was school today?
Hurry up, you're late.
Do you think I'm made of money?
Who's going to be at that party?
What's taking you so long?
Have you been smoking?
Where are you going?
I'm not going to ask you again.
Who's that on the phone?
You can't go.
You're old enough to know better.
Being the oldest, set a good example.
Be careful.
Is your homework finished?
It's only puppy love.
Watch your tongue.
I don't care who's going, you're not.
Be home by 10.
Did you brush your teeth?
Take that skirt off.
Go change that shirt.
Why don't you want me to chaperone the dance?
Is THAT your new friend?
That's too much makeup.
Go get your hair cut.
Tie your shoes.
Your jeans are dragging.
Take that grin off your face.
Who put the dent in the fender?
The car doesn't run on air.
Why is the gas tank always empty?
That song is stupid.
Quiet down!
Did you eat all that ice cream?
Don't slam the door.
Feed the dog.
Have you done your chores?
Did you skip school today?
Who do you think you're kidding?
I wasn't born yesterday.
Who cut the bake sale cake?
Yes, I was young once.
Don't be a smart aleck.
Why do you need a note for school?
Do you think parents are stupid?
I'm not lecturing.
Sit still.
Must you snap your fingers?
Where are your maners?
Clean up your room.
If it drops, pick it up.
What did you spill on my clean floor?
Be home for supper.

F.M.M.

After an old fashioned, frigid, snowy New England winter, the following poem seems appropriate.

SPRING

Of all the joys that life can bring
Take not from me the gift of Spring.
When squirrels romp and robins sing
Rebirth for every living thing!

The crocus, first to realize
The miracle before our eyes
With courage quite beyond its size
Appears before the snow's demise.

Then later, tulips, colors bright
And blossoms, such a gorgeous sight!
When trees start budding over night
To greet the golden morning light.

Nothing surpasses that first warm wind:
The essence of Spring it seems to send
Is this not Nature's most beautiful blend
Of Summer's beginning and Winter's end?

Linus

DEATHS

Clarance Snell
Donald D. Keefe
Rose Deschamps
Donald W. Bubble Sr.
Samuel Walton Jr.
Robert W. Kempton
Richard E. Moore
Bernice (Ross) Bibbins
William J. (Mike) Slason
Nicholas Winter (Town moderator)

The Commission would like to thank Mrs. William Ridge for donating Bill's year book and other class pictures. We would also like to thank Matt McCracken for printing our mailing labels and his sister, Judy Cox, for helping her mom deliver the Comments.

HUMAN RELATIONS Short Course

The most important 6 words -
"I admit I made a mistake."
The most important 5 words -
"I am proud of you."
The most important 4 words -
"What is your opinion?"
The most important 3 words -
"Would you mind?"
The most important 2 words -
"Thank you."
The most important 1 word -
"Please."
The most important word -
"We."
The least important word -
"I."



OUR NATIONAL FLAG

HOW TO DISPLAY
AND RESPECT IT

Which Holidays remain
from the year 1960 ?

FLAG HOLIDAYS

NEW YEAR'S DAY, January 1
INAUGURATION DAY, January 20
LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY, February 12
WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY, February 22
ARMY DAY, April 6
EASTER SUNDAY (variable)
MOTHER'S DAY, second Sunday in May
MEMORIAL DAY, May 30 (half staff until noon)
FLAG DAY, June 14
INDEPENDENCE DAY, July 4
LABOR DAY, first Monday in September
CITIZENSHIP DAY, September 17
COLUMBUS DAY, October 12
NAVY DAY, October 27
VETERANS' DAY, November 11
THANKSGIVING DAY, fourth Thursday in
November
CHRISTMAS DAY, December 25
Other days as may be proclaimed by the
President of the United States
BIRTHDAYS OF STATES (dates of admission)
STATE HOLIDAYS

Things to Remember About Displaying the U.S. Flag

DO'S

It is the universal custom to display the flag only from sunrise to sunset on buildings and on stationary flagstaffs in the open, but it should not be displayed on days when the weather is inclement. The flag may be displayed at night upon special occasions when it is desired to produce a patriotic effect.

Always hoist the flag briskly. Lower it ceremoniously.

Display the flag on all days that weather

permits but especially on national and state holidays and other days that may be proclaimed by the President of the United States. On Memorial Day, the flag should be half-staffed until noon.

The flag should be displayed on or near the main building of every public institution, during school days in or near every schoolhouse, and in or near every polling place on election days.

DON'TS

Never in any way should any disrespect be shown the Flag of the United States of America.

The flag should never be dipped to any person or thing. Regimental colors, State flags, and organization or institutional flags are dipped as a mark of honor.

The flag should never be displayed with the union down except as a signal of dire distress.

The flag should never touch anything beneath it—ground, floor, water or merchandise.

The flag should never be carried horizontally, but always aloft and free.

Never use the flag as drapery, festooned, drawn back, nor up in folds, but always allowed to fall free. For draping platforms and decoration in general, use blue, white and red bunting. Always arrange it with blue above, the white in the middle, and the red below.

The flag should never be fastened, displayed, used or stored in such a manner as will

permit it to be easily torn, soiled or damaged in any way.

Never use a flag as a covering or drape for a ceiling.

The flag should never have placed upon it, nor on any part of it, nor attached to it, any mark, insignia, letter, word, figure, design, picture or drawing of any nature.

The flag should never be used for receiving, holding, carrying or delivering anything.

"WE FLAG



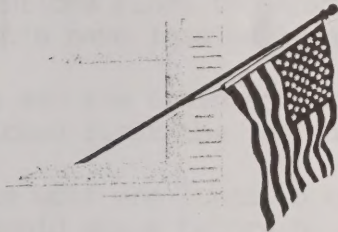
THE NATION"



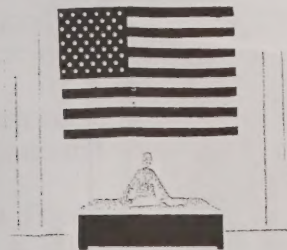
When other flags are flown from the same halyard, the flag of the United States should always be at the peak. When other flags are flown from adjacent staffs, our national flag should be hoisted first and lowered last. No flag may fly above or to the right of the flag of the United States (except flags of other nations; see below).



When flags of two or more nations are displayed, they are to be flown from separate staffs of the same height. The flags should be of approximately equal size. International usage forbids the display of the flag of one nation above that of another nation in time of peace.



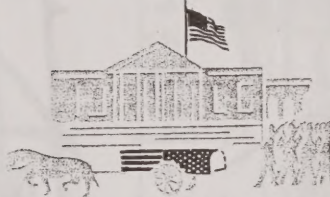
When the flag of the United States is displayed from a staff projecting from a building, the union of the flag should be placed at the peak of the staff unless the flag is at half staff. When suspended from a rope extending from the building to a pole, the flag should be hoisted out, union first, from the building.



If displayed flat against the wall on a speaker's platform, the flag should be placed above and behind the speaker, the union of the flag in the upper left hand corner as the audience faces the flag.



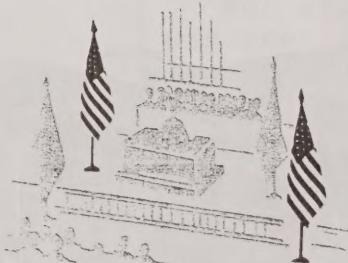
The flag should form a distinctive feature at the ceremony of unveiling a statue or monument, but should never be used as the covering for the statue or monument.



When the flag is used to cover a casket, it should be so placed that the union is at the head and over the left shoulder. The flag should not be lowered into the grave or allowed to touch the ground. The flag, when flown at half staff, should be first hoisted to the peak for a moment and then lowered to the half-staff position. The flag should be again raised to the peak before it is lowered for the day.



During the ceremony of hoisting or lowering the flag or when the flag is passing in parade all persons should face the flag, stand at attention and salute. A man should remove his hat and hold it with the right hand over the heart. Men without hats, and women salute by placing the right hand over the heart. The salute to the flag in the moving column should be rendered at the moment the flag passes.



In the chancel of a church or on a speaker's platform the flag is placed to the speaker's right. Other flags to the speaker's left. When displayed elsewhere than on the platform, it should be placed at the right of the audience as they face the platform. Other flags to the left of the audience.



The flag, when carried in a procession with another or other flags, should be either on the marching right (the flag's own right) or, if there is a line of other flags, in front of the center of that line. Never display the flag from a float except from a staff, or so suspended that its folds fall free as though staffed.



The Flag of the United States of America, when displayed with another flag against a wall from crossed staffs, should be on the flag's own right, and its staff should be in front of the staff of the other flag.



The Flag of the United States of America should be at the center and at the highest point of the group when a number of flags of States or localities or pennants of societies are grouped and displayed from staffs.



When the flag is displayed other than from a staff, it should be displayed flat, or so suspended that its folds fall free. When displayed over a street, place the union so it faces north or east, depending upon the direction of the street.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

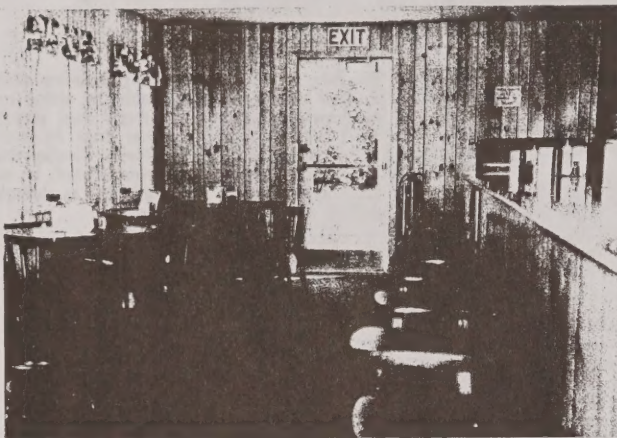
"I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all."

BURGER COOP INC.

BURGER
IN THE
BASKET
50¢

DAILY
SPECIALS
99¢

"Chicken In The Bucket"
Small 6 pcs. \$1⁷⁵ Large 18 pcs. \$4²⁵
Medium 12 pcs. \$3¹⁰ Ex. Lg. 24 pcs. \$5⁷⁵



Open
10 A. M.
To
11 P. M.
Serving
Breakfast
Luncheon
Dinners
Daily
Specials
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HAMBURGERS
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FRAPPES
25¢ ..

Specializing
In Orders
To Go!

Bucket Of Spaghetti

SMALL 1 qt. \$1.00
MEDIUM 3 qts. \$3.00
LARGE 5 qts. \$5.00

FRIED CLAMS
FRENCH FRIES
ONION RINGS

DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN?

DO YOU REMEMBER WHERE?



Hood's Texaco

BURMA SHAVE SAYINGS
Originally donated by Rita Sawyer

Don't lose your head to gain a minute.
You need your head - your brains are in it.

We know how much you love that gal
But use both hands for driving, Pal.

If you don't recall the half pound jar
You haven't traveled very far.

Both hands on wheel - eyes on road
That's the skillful driver's code.

Drove too long. Driver snoozing
What happened next is not amusing.

Brother speeders, lets rehearse
All together "Good morning nurse".

Past school houses, take it slow
Let the little shavers grow.

Hardly a driver is now alive
Who passed on hills at 75.

Cautious rider to her reckless dear
Let's have less ball and more steer.

He saw the train and tried to duck it
Kicked first the gas and then the bucket.

The wolf who longs to roam and prowl
Should shave before he starts to howl.

Her chariot races at 80 per
They hauled away what had Ben Hur.

If hugging on highways is your sport
Trade in your car for a davenport.

At school zones heed instructions
Protect our little tax deductions.

At intersections look both ways
A harp sounds nice but it's hard to play.

Many a forest used to stand
Where a lighted match got out of hand.

Now look here birds, these signs cost money
Rest if you must but don't get funny.

Within this vale of toil and sin
Your head grows bald but not your chin.

QUESTIONS(?) & ANSWERS(!)

QUESTION: We've just had some heavy snowstorms. How did they handle snow like this in the old days?

ANSWER: Not very well. Horse-drawn snowplows depended on the horse "breaking through" the snow. If the horse couldn't pull the heavy wooden plow because of slipping, or heavy, wet snow, the road didn't get opened up.

There were, in some places, snow rollers - heavy wood plank drums that packed the snow. The trouble here, of course, was if there were successive storms, the snow got higher and higher and the clearing operations ended.

As an example of one of those storms, let's go back to one of the great snowstorms in Bellingham's history - when 4' of snow fell on January 17, 1867,

By January 18, travel was restricted to sleighs or sledges, and street cars still some 30 years in the future, the steam railroad was the only means of contact with the outside world.

The railroads had their problems too, Steel plows, pushed by two engines had managed to keep most of the Woonsocket-Brookline open, and shovelers were trying to reduce the many drifts.

But all was not well; Bill Scully, engineer on the "up" train to Boston was coming in to Bellingham where the Junction station was then being built. Too late, he saw that a switch was not fully closed, due to packed snow, and his engine went off the tracks. A few hours later, it was re-railed, and Bill left to continue to Boston. But that wasn't to be; Bill derailed twice more on the trip

So that gives us a question:
Did Bill Scully stay on the railroad?

FDD

Thanks to Jean Smith for the picture of Walt Disney and Arthur Mabey outside the State Theater in Milford. Arthur was manager of the theater for many years. The carpeted lobby with its twin staircases gave a touch of class to those entering. The ceiling in the main part of the theater was made to look like the night sky - stars and all. Both you and your beau dressed up for a nice evening of entertainment - so different from today's cinemas.



Jackie Kennedy & Former State Rep. Daniel J. Ranieri
May 29, 1990
Dedication of the President John F. Kennedy Statue
at the Massachusetts State House.





BELLINGHAM POLICE DEPARTMENT

Front Row: Sgt. Robert Kudak, Chief Norman McLinden, Sgt. Joseph Grassi, Sgt. Bertrand Guerin
Back Row: Donald Jarrie, Raymond Keavy, Glen Whitten, Lionel Arcand

BELLINGHAM



BELLINGHAM HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

(left to right)

Supt. Gerard Daigle, Pierto Zanella, Donald Moore, Jr., Ronald Arcand, Edward Melloni, Asst. Foreman Bill Spear, Anrian Marcet, Thomas Keirstead, Howard Burr, Jr., Victor Bokoski.

BELLINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE COIN



Bellingham was named after the third Governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony Richard Bellingham, a lifelong Puritan leader. In the late 1600's when Baptists and Quakers were struggling for religious freedom, Bellingham land was examined by Dedham Selectmen for settlement. Threatening Indian wars and reported unproductive land made early settlements unadvisable.

In 1719, Bellingham was the last town incorporated in Norfolk County. Early history and records show that the town was once an active and flourishing manufacturing town, producing boots, shoes and other leather goods.

The town is eight miles long, two miles wide at its South end and three miles wide at the North end with an area of 18.55 square miles. It is surrounded by seven Massachusetts towns and a Rhode Island city at its South end.

Today Bellingham is mainly a residential town but one of the fastest growing towns in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

1820	1034 people
1920	2102 people
1945	3494 people
1955	5421 people
1965	10604 people
Anticipated 1969 — over 14,000	

DESIGN OF THE COIN

In January of 1968, art students at Bellingham's Jr.-Sr. Memorial High School were asked to design a seal to be used in the forthcoming Town's 250th Anniversary celebration. Forty-four entries were submitted to the main celebration committee.

On the obverse side of the coin is the Center Baptist Church as it stands today in Bellingham Center. Built in 1826, it is one of the older landmarks in Bellingham, originally settled for the sole purpose of religious freedom. The church, bell, seen atop the building, was cast in 1833 by G. H. Holbrook, an apprentice of Paul Revere. Bellingham Baptists who formed a church covenant in 1738, had Noah Alden as minister in 1766.

Alden, great grandson of the famed historical figures, John and Priscilla, was also a member of the Massachusetts convention to form the constitution. This design was submitted by Miss Diane Weston.

On the reverse side of the coin, designed by Joseph Ustinovich, Jr., is a profile of an Indian who represents America's first settlers. In Latin, below the traditional American eagle, is an inscription that reads; "Times are changing for the public good".



MAILBOX NEWS

To The Editor,

I was born across the street from John Lundvall in 1913. I enjoy your Comments. I lived there during the Sacco-Vanzetti case. (They were in prison for 7 years and then executed.)

I went to school in Bellingham Center. Dorothy Spencer was in my class. I believe she still lives down here in Lakeland.

My father, they called him Joe Nicklaw, built the benches to sit on, across from Thayer's Store to wait for the street cars.

Ray Patrick delivered our groceries every two weeks. My sister used to take me to Silver Lake to go swimming and my brother Vic went dancing in the building across the pond at Silver Lake.

George Bourcier

To The Director,

I have finished reading my copy of "Crimpsville Comments" and say "Thank You" once more.

I noted with much interest, Lenore(deJony) Colletts's letter, and I'm happy to say that I can provide her with the information she seeks.

Ruth(Bates) Carr is, and has been, a resident of Barefoot Bay, FL. for many years.

she recently lost a son and her husband, within weeks of each other.

I have kept in touch with her through the years and I believe she receives "Crimpsville Comments".

"Random Thoughts" evoked many memories, and the question about getting an old black and white negative printed, provokes a suggestion. If you have an old original, take them to a Postal Center or other store where they have a color copier and you will get a beautiful duplicate

for a very reasonable price. The photo can also be reduced or enlarged, for less than a dollar a sheet.

I was saddened to read of the death of William Ridge. He and his family were neighbors of mine on Scott Hill Road for several years.

Enclosed is a check to help with postage, etc.

Sincerely,
Marion(Hogarth) Shangraw
(class of 1939-B.H.S.)

DONATIONS

Eunice & Albert Clark
George Bourcier
Jean Smith
Genevieve Gardner
Carlton & Millie Patrick
Emilio Cubellis
Marion Shangraw
William Chattaway
Francis Donovan
June Merrick
Lucille Nadolny

We can complain because rose bushes have thorns, or rejoice because thorn bushes have roses.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN

"In the childhood memories of every good cook, there's a large kitchen a warm stove, a simmering pot and a mom."

F.D.R. said,
"When you get to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on."

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Bellingham, MA 02019

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